

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **CANCEL** claims 3, 10, and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please **AMEND** claims 1-2, 6-9, 13-14, 17-18, and 22-24 as follows.

Please **ADD** claim 25 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

estimating a change in a required signal-to-interference with respect to a change from a first data rate to a second data rate, wherein the first data rate is applied to a dedicated channel during a first transmission time interval transmitted prior to a second transmission time interval;

adjusting a target signal-to-interference to match ~~a first~~ the second data rate applied during ~~a first~~ the second transmission time interval of ~~a~~ the dedicated channel, wherein the target signal-to-interference is configured to provide a reference signal-to-interference value for closed-loop power control;

adjusting the target signal-to-interference by using the change in the required signal-to-interference and a target signal-to-interference that matches the first data rate;

and

performing a comparison between a signal-to-interference measured from the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~first~~ second data rate and the target signal-to-interference,

wherein a transmit power control command is provided to a transmitter according to the comparison.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
predicting the ~~first~~second data rate from received signaling information.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
adjusting the target signal-to-interference to provide a required quality of the dedicated channel.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
indicating if the target signal-to-interference ratio falls outside a range of allowed signal-to-interference values; and
setting the target signal-to-interference to a value which falls within the range of the allowed signal-to-interference ratio values.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
adjusting the target signal-to-interference ratio by using:

a target signal-to-interference ratio adjusted to match ~~a second~~ the first data rate applied in a transmission of ~~a second~~ the first transmission time interval transmitted prior to the ~~first~~ second transmission time interval;

an error indicator value characterizing the reliability of decoding a ~~third~~ coding block transmitted prior to the ~~first~~ second transmission time interval;

a target $\left(\frac{E_b}{N_o}\right)$ value corresponding to a required quality of the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~second~~ first data rate; and

a target $\left(\frac{E_b}{N_o}\right)$ value corresponding to the required quality of the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~first~~ second data rate.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

adjusting the target signal-to-interference ratio by using an error indicator value characterizing the reliability of decoding a ~~third~~ coding block transmitted prior to the ~~first~~ second transmission time interval.

8. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

an adjusting unit operatively connected to a receiver and configured to:

estimate a change in a required signal-to-interference ratio with respect to a change from a first data rate to a second data rate, wherein the first data rate is

applied to a dedicated channel during a first transmission time interval transmitted prior to a second transmission time interval;

adjust a target signal-to-interference ratio to match ~~a first~~the second data rate applied during ~~a first~~the second transmission time interval of the dedicated channel, wherein the target signal-to-interference ratio is configured to provide a reference signal-to-interference ratio value for closed-loop power control; and

adjust the target signal-to-interference ratio by using the change in the required signal-to-interference ratio and a target signal-to-interference ratio that matches the first data rate; and

a comparator configured to perform a comparison between a signal-to-interference ratio measured from the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~first~~second data rate and the target signal-to-interference ratio,

wherein a transmitter is configured to receive a transmit power control command according to the comparison.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 8, further comprising:

a predicting unit, operatively connected to the adjusting unit, configured to predict the ~~first~~second data rate from received signaling information.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the adjusting unit is further configured to adjust the target signal-to-interference ratio to provide a required quality of the dedicated channel.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the adjusting unit is further configured to indicate if the target signal-to-interference ratio falls outside a range of allowed signal-to-interference ratio values; and

wherein the adjusting unit is configured to set the target signal-to-interference ratio into a value which falls within the range of the allowed signal-to-interference ratio values.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein the adjusting unit is further configured to adjust the target signal-to-interference ratio by using:

a target signal-to-interference ratio adjusted to match ~~a second~~ the first data rate applied in transmission of ~~a second~~ the first transmission time interval transmitted prior to the ~~first~~ second transmission time interval;

an error indicator value characterizing the reliability of decoding of a ~~third~~ coding block transmitted prior to the ~~first~~ second transmission time interval;

a target $\left(\frac{E_b}{N_o}\right)$ value corresponding to a required quality of the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~second~~ first data rate;

a target $\left(\frac{E_b}{N_o}\right)$ value corresponding to the required quality of the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~first~~ second data rate.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein the adjusting unit is further configured to adjust the target signal-to-interference ratio by using an error indicator value characterizing the reliability of decoding of a ~~third~~ coding block transmitted prior to the ~~first~~ second transmission time interval.

15. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the receiver is located in a mobile station and the transmitter is located in a base station.

16. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the receiver is located in a base station and the transmitter is located in a mobile station.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

an adjusting unit operatively connected to a receiver and configured to:

estimate a change in a required signal-to-interference ratio with respect to a change from a first data rate to a second data rate, wherein the first data rate is applied to a dedicated channel during a first transmission time interval transmitted prior to a second transmission time interval;

adjust a target signal-to-interference ratio to match a ~~first~~ the second data rate applied during a ~~first~~ the second transmission time interval of the dedicated channel, wherein the target signal-to-interference ratio is configured to provide a reference signal-to-interference ratio value for closed-loop power control; and

adjust the target signal-to-interference ratio by using the change in the required signal-to-interference ratio and a target signal-to-interference ratio that matches the first data rate; and

a comparator configured to generate a comparison between a signal-to-interference ratio measured from the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~first~~ second data rate and the target signal-to-interference ratio,

wherein a transmitter is configured to receive a transmit power control command according to the comparison.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:

a predicting unit, operatively connected to the adjusting unit, configured to predict the ~~first~~ second data rate from received signaling information.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the adjusting unit is further configured to adjust the target signal-to-interference ratio to provide a required quality of the dedicated channel.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the adjusting unit is further configured to indicate if the target signal-to-interference ratio falls outside a range of allowed signal-to-interference ratio values; and

wherein the adjusting unit is configured to set the target signal-to-interference ratio into a value which falls within the range of the allowed signal-to-interference ratio values.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the adjusting unit is further configured to adjust the target signal-to-interference ratio by using:

a target signal-to-interference ratio adjusted to match ~~a second~~ the first data rate applied in transmission of ~~a second~~ the first transmission time interval transmitted prior to the ~~first~~ second transmission time interval;

an error indicator value characterizing the reliability of decoding of a ~~third~~ coding block transmitted prior to the ~~first~~ second transmission time interval;

a target $\left(\frac{E_b}{N_o} \right)$ value corresponding to a required quality of the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~second~~ first data rate;

a target $\left(\frac{E_b}{N_o}\right)$ value corresponding to the required quality of the dedicated channel transmitted at the ~~first~~second data rate.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the adjusting unit is further configured to adjust the target signal-to-interference by using an error indicator value characterizing the reliability of decoding of a ~~third~~-coding block transmitted prior to the ~~first~~second transmission time interval.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
adjusting means, operatively connected to a receiver, for:

estimating a change in a required signal-to-interference ratio with respect to a change from a first data rate to a second data rate, wherein the first data rate is applied to a dedicated channel during a first transmission time interval transmitted prior to a second transmission time interval;

adjusting a target signal-to-interference ratio to match ~~a first~~the second data rate applied during a ~~first~~second transmission time interval of the dedicated channel, wherein the target signal-to-interference ratio is configured to provide a reference signal-to-interference ratio value for closed-loop power control; and

adjusting the target signal-to-interference ratio by using the change in the required signal-to-interference ratio and a target signal-to-interference ratio that matches the first data rate; and

comparing means for generating a comparison between a signal-to-interference ratio measured from the dedicated channel transmitted at the first data rate and the target signal-to-interference ratio,

wherein a transmitter is configured to receive a transmit power control command according to the comparison.

25. (New) A computer readable storage medium

estimating a change in a required signal-to-interference with respect to a change from a first data rate to a second data rate, wherein the first data rate is applied to a dedicated channel during a first transmission time interval transmitted prior to a second transmission time interval;

adjusting a target signal-to-interference to match the second data rate applied during the second transmission time interval of the dedicated channel, wherein the target signal-to-interference is configured to provide a reference signal-to-interference value for closed-loop power control;

adjusting the target signal-to-interference by using the change in the required signal-to-interference and a target signal-to-interference that matches the first data rate; and

performing a comparison between a signal-to-interference measured from the dedicated channel transmitted at the second data rate and the target signal-to-interference, wherein a transmit power control command is provided to a transmitter according to the comparison.